

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

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HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EEWT, CSCE, NATO, XH

SUBJECT: CSCE BASKET II HEARINGS -- REF: USNATO 232

1. ON JANUARY 13 AND 14, THE CSCE COMMISSION HELD HEARINGS ON BASKET II OF THE FINAL ACT. WITNESSES CALLED BEFORE THE COMMISSION WERE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE ROBINSON, COMMERCE SECRETARY RICHARDSON, TREASURY ASST. SECRETARY PARSKY, JOHN P. HARDT, SENIOR SPECIALIST IN SOVIET AFFAIRS, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, MILTON ROSENTHAL, US CO-CHAIRMAN, US-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL, EDWARD WILSON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, US-HUNGARIAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL AND DONALD KENDALL, US CO-CHAIRMAN US-USSR TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL.

2. THROUGHOUT THE HEARINGS, THE SUBSTANTIVE FOCAL POINT UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE COMMISSIONERS' INTEREST WAS THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND-ITSLINKAGE TO EAST-WEST ECONOMIC COOPERATION AS EXEMPLIFIED-IN BASKET II.

3. EXECUTIVE BRANCH WITNESSES NOTED THE IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN BASKET II AREAS BY THE EASTERN COUNTRIES AND STRESSED THE NEED FOR FULL IMPLEMENTA-

TION OF FINAL ACT PROVISIONS BY ALL CSCE SIGNATORIES.
WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT LINKAGE BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECON-
OMIC RELATIONS
THEY REPLIED THAT THE TWO SHOULD NOT BE LINKED
BY FORMAL LEGISLATIVE MEASURES.

4) THE BUSINESSMEN WHO TESTIFIED WERE UNANIMOUS IN
STRESSING THAT TRADE SHOULD NOT BE HELD HOSTAGE TO
NON-ECONOMIC GOALS AND THAT BY FORMALLY DOING SO
THE US LOSES OUT ON BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

5) THE BUSINESSMEN ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE THERE PERHAPS
HAS BEEN SOME IMPROVEMENT IN BASKET TWO ISSUES SINCE
HELSINKI MOST OF THIS WOULD HAVE OCCURRED WITHOUT THE
FINAL ACT. PROGRESS IS MADE ONLY WHEN BOTH SIDES SEE
MUTUAL BENEFIT. THE FINAL ACT IS USEFUL, THEY SAID,
IN THAT IT CODIFIES LANGUAGE AND OBJECTIVES OFTEN FOUND
IN BILATERAL ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS AND PROVIDES A
FRAMEWORK FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS.

6) IN ADDITION TO BRIEFING MATERIAL MENTIONED IN
AGENDA CABLE RESPONSE, COPIES OF PARSKY AND RICHARDSON
TESTIMONY BEING POUCHED. IN DISCUSSING MATERIAL IN
PARAS 1-5 ABOVE, US REP SHOULD INFORM ECONADS THAT
COMPLETE STATEMENTS OF USG WITNESSES WOULD BE AVAILABLE
SHORTLY.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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